

WESTFORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION
6/16/2004

Present: Ken Tebbetts, Jane Hinckley, Roberta McGuire, Phil Gilbert,
Bob Oliphant, Stacey Perron

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM on the library steps.

We met on the library steps to review the CPC application submitted by Ellen Rainville, for restoration of the library facade. We had all received copies of the application, and Ellen reviewed several points with us. This would include replacing the walkway, repointing the granite steps, and granite pieces to the sides of the door.

The seams between the terra cotta letters need to be cleaned and prepared for restoration, including re-grouting the seams between the letters. The oak on the front door area needs to be refinished, with cleaning and re-grouting of the side windows. The stained glass windows above the doors need to be reglazed, possibly re-leaded. It may be possible to protect them with plexiglass. The two stained glass windows to the sides of the door need to be re-leaded.

The group had questions about the age of the existing walkway, and Ellen told us she would do further research.

Open Forum

A reminder that the Celebration Weekend for our 275th is June 26th, and 27th.

The September Gala is sold out!

Jane Hughes- the new owner of 29 N Main Street has invited us for a tour of the house . Restoration is under way, and Jane will try to arrange the tour for Sat. June 19, at 4PM. She will let us know.

The owner of 178 Carlisle Road has applied for a demo permit for the garage, which does not come under the demolition delay bylaw, so Jane will sign the permit. We'd love to have a tour of the house, which Jane will try to arrange for July 21, at 6:30 PM.

A notice of a public hearing was sent to abutters ,that the owners of 28 Boston Rd. want to demolish that house and move 30 Boston Road to that lot.

Randy Peledeau from Wyman's Beach Road has expressed concern about a 700 year old sycamore tree. This concern has been forwarded to the Conservation Commission.

Don Reed has sent Jane a thank you note re: a demo delay. They will withdraw their warrant article, and will re submit it in the fall.

Sanford Johnson is getting married 6/19- congratulations!

Wed. June 30th is a workshop on MHC inventory forms.

For construction of a new house on Vose Road, (a Scenic Road) a stone wall was cut through. The Planning Board reviewed the project, and we did not object.

CPC Application Discussion-

The library has high priority for preservation. Town buildings also scored high on our survey.

Jane made a motion to support the J.V. Fletcher Library restoration, adding the restoration of the stained glass above the doorway, and removing the walkway replacement. Bob seconded, and the vote was unanimous. The CPC meets this Tuesday.

Secretary's Report-

The minutes of 5/19/04 were reviewed. Jane moved to accept with Roberta seconding. The correct spelling of Lemieux was noted. The minutes of 3/17/04 will not be reviewed at this time.

Roofing projects-

Bob was not able to contact Frank Bearse re: the Museum Roof.

Stacey received an estimate from Superior Roofing for the cottage, of \$7,800. D/S Roofing would like to look in the cottage attic before putting their estimate in writing, but estimate their charge at \$8,000. She will contact Express Roofing as the third vendor.

Treasurer's Report-

This report will be deferred until next month.

Demolition Delay-

No new applications were received.

Chris Skelley (MHC) sent out an e-mail asking if towns have ever collected a fine for an unauthorized demolition.

Old Business-

Updates of the historical portion of the Westford GIS maps were reviewed. One more correction was noted- Worsted is spelled incorrectly on the Graniteville map.

Pam Stratemeier has called again regarding the house at the back of her property at 21 First Street. She wants to demolish the small house, but is unsure of the age. Stacey will try to arrange a site visit for this Sat. At 5PM. Stacey will e-mail board members.

Preservation plan-

Ken is working on the Executive Summary, and the Municipal Policy also needs to be written. Ken will contact Lynn Cohen from the League of Women Voters.

The index needs to be done.

Under Findings, it was suggested to add the inclusions of the various villages that

were added to the National Historic Register. The Demolition Delay should also be added.

We will recommend that a paid employee be added for the Historical Commission, in the future. We will also recommend that a paid archivist be included at the new archive building. Ken will work out the detailed wording, and e-mail Roberta.

It was suggested to combine sections 2.5, and 2.6. Sections 2.12 and 2.2 could also be combined.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey M. Perron
Secretary